



WHEEL RETENTION DEVICE

Background of the Invention

This invention relates to a wheel retention device
5 and, more particularly, to a wheel retention device
that quickly and easily secures a wheeled vehicle to a
vehicle rack for transport of the wheeled vehicle.

Conventional vehicle transport racks require a
wheeled vehicle, such as a bicycle, a motorcycle or the
10 like, to be secured to the rack by use of straps,
stretchable cords, or pivotable members. Straps and
stretchable cords may be unwieldy to use due to their
length, may be easily deteriorated by environmental
elements, may be lost if stored separately from the
15 vehicle rack and may cause damage to the frame of the
wheeled vehicle, such as by chipping the frame's paint.
Pivotable members generally include metallic pivot pins
which may become deteriorated by environmental
elements, may break due to the large shear forces
20 applied to the pins during use and may open during use
thereby allowing the wheeled vehicle to fall from the
rack during transport. Moreover, conventional
pivotable members may not easily fit between the spokes
of a wheel during positioning of the device thereby
25 rendering the pivotal members difficult to use.

Summary of the Invention

In accordance with the invention, a vehicle
transport rack including a wheel retention device is
30 provided wherein the wheel retention device includes a
base adapted for mounting to a main support of the rack
and a retention ring secured to the base. The base
includes an open cavity having a central axis, the open
cavity sized to receive a portion of a wheel of the
35 wheeled vehicle therein. The retention ring is